

Merck KGaA · Germany · Frankfurter Str. 250 · 64293 Darmstadt

To whom it may concern

Date	20.03.2017
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**Product information: 108643 Triton® X-100 Emprove® Expert**

Dear valued customer,

We would like to inform you about upcoming changes related to our product 108643 Triton® X-100 Emprove® Expert.

In December 2012 the substance group “4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol, ethoxylated [covering well defined substances and UVCB substances, polymers and homologues]”, including Triton® X-100 Emprove® were added to the candidate list by the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) as substances with an equivalent level of concern due to its degradation to a substance with endocrine disrupting properties.

In December 2016 the EU REACH-Committee voted for the inclusion of Octylphenol ethoxylates into Annex XIV. The sunset date is expected to be published in the second quarter of 2017. All uses of a substance listed on Annex XIV are forbidden after the sunset date unless an authorization is granted or the use is exempted from authorization.

Merck plans to submit an application for authorization to be able to supply our customers with the item 108643 Triton® X-100 after the sunset date for uses that are not covered by an exemption (e.g. R&D exemption). If the application is approved, all Downstream Users (DUs), who have their own authorization for their uses can purchase Triton® X-100 at Merck continuously. Furthermore, all DUs who wish to continue to use the Triton® X-100 in



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Chairman of the Supervisory Board:  
Wolfgang Büchele

Executive Board and General Partners:  
Karl-Ludwig Kley (Chairman),  
Stefan Oschmann (Vice Chairman),  
Kai Beckmann, Belén Garijo, Marcus Kuhnert,  
Bernd Reckmann

exempted uses (such as R&D) can purchase Triton® X-100 on a continuous basis from Merck.

So far only the European market is affected by the authorization requirements using Triton® X-100 Emprove®. The objectives of the authorization process are:

- To assure that the risks of substances of very high concern are properly controlled and
- To ensure that the substances are progressively replaced by suitable alternatives where these are economically and technically viable.

Based on current available information, the latest application date is expected to be in May 2019 and the sunset date in November 2020. As soon as the sunset date will be published we will inform our customers in a second customer notification about the next steps and the status of the authorization process.

According to the REACH legislation, you will be able to buy Triton® X-100 from Merck until the sunset date.

In addition to the REACH authorization Merck is working on an eco-friendly detergent as substitute product for Triton® X-100 Emprove®. We will update our customers as soon as we are able to communicate more detailed information. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your local sales representative.

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